

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants have fully considered the Advisory Action of December 20, 2006. Claims 6-8, 13-15, 17-19, and 22 have been amended. Claims 1-5, 9-12, 16, 20, 21, and 23-28 are cancelled. Claims 6-8, 13-15, 17-19, 22, and 29 are pending. Applicants request reconsideration of the application.

In the Final Office Action:

1. Claims 1, 7, 13-15, 17-19, and 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Hamano (6,500,594) in view of JP 06-180511.
2. Claims 1, 6-8, 13-15, 17-19, and 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Sacripante (6,140,003) in view of JP 06-180511.
3. Claims 29 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Sacripante (6,017,671) in view of JP 06-180511.

In the Advisory Action, the Examiner indicated that the rejection based on Hamano was maintained. However, the remarks concerning both Sacripante references were found persuasive. Claims 6 and 8 were marked as objected to only.

In a telephone conversation on January 5, 2007, Applicants' representative George Huang, Reg. No. 57,945, spoke with the Examiner, Christopher RoDee, regarding the status of claim 29. The parties agreed that claim 29 should also be objected to, not rejected.

In this Second Amendment After Final, claims 6 and 8 have been placed into independent form. Claims 7, 13-15, 17, 18, and 22 have been amended to depend from claim 6. Claim 19 has been amended to depend from claim 8.

For the Examiner's reference, the sulfopolyester resins listed in claim 17 correspond to the first two resins listed in claim 6. The sulfopolyester resin listed in claim 22 corresponds to the first resin listed in claim 6. Claim 22 has also been amended to follow the wording of claim 6; "sodio" has been amended to "sodium" and the phrase "copoly", which appears to have been inadvertently left off, has been added.

All claims were either allowable or have been amended to depend from allowable claims. Therefore, all of the claims should be allowable now.

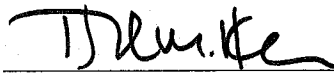
CONCLUSION

For the above reason, the pending claims (6-8, 13-15, 17-19, 22, and 29) are believed to be in condition for allowance. Withdrawal of the rejections and issuance of a Notice of Allowance is requested.

In the event the Examiner considers personal contact advantageous to the disposition of this case, he is hereby authorized to telephone Richard M. Klein, at (216) 861-5582.

Respectfully submitted,

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